ADRIFT

DESTINATION NOT FOUND

ADRIFT

https://adrift.games/

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NOW WHAT?

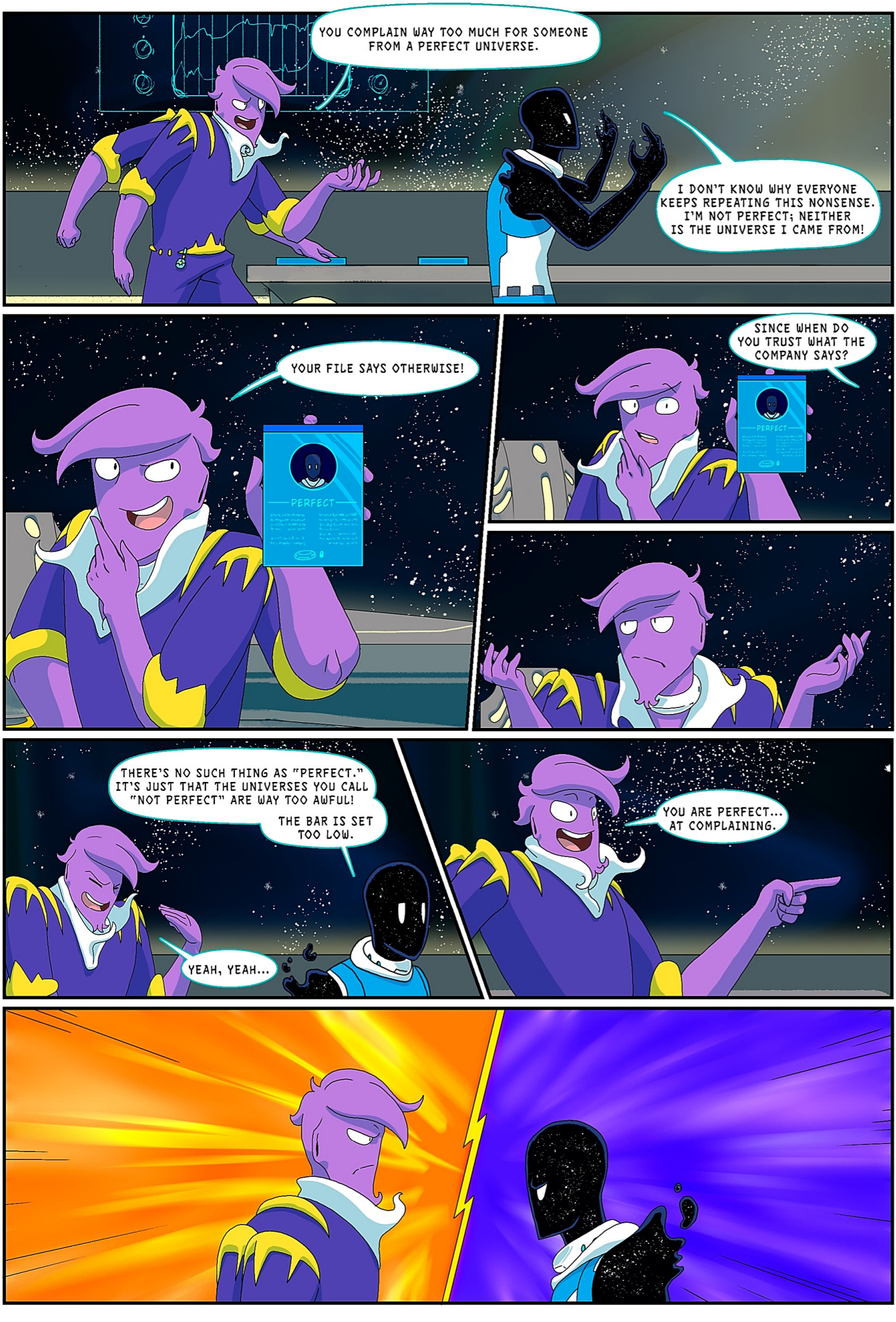
HOW ARE WE GOING TO LEAVE NOW?
WELL...
HOW ABOUT WE JUST LEAVE?

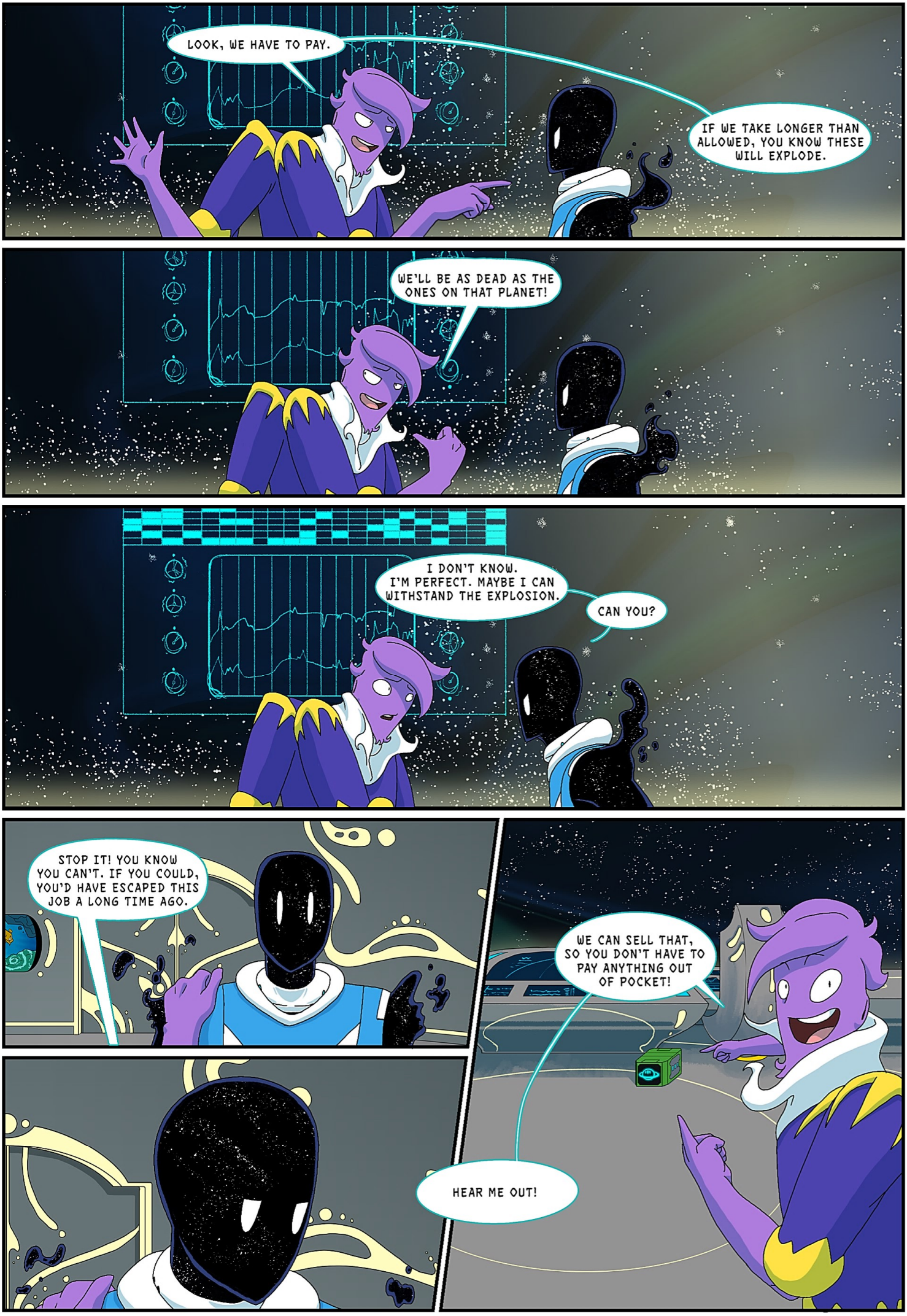
WE CAN'T!
WE HAVE TO PAY FOR THIS SHIP!
WE PAY, THEN.
IT'S NOT SUCH A BIG DEAL.
OH, NO. NOT "WE."
WE DIDN'T GET PAID, REMEMBER?
I WILL NOT PAY IT OUT OF MY POCKET!

WHAT?!
WE AGREED TO SPLIT THIS DELIVERY!

YES, THE DELIVERY!
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO INSISTED ON RENTING THIS FANCY SHIP.
I WAS AGAINST IT!

I DON'T TRUST YOUR SHIP. NO WAY!
WHAT ABOUT YOURS?
OR IS IT BECAUSE "THE GREAT GHAKS" COULDN'T GO UNNOTICE IN A DELIVERY?
MY SHIP?! ARE YOU CRAZY? THIS IS AN ACTIVE WAR ZONE; I DON'T WANT TO RISK DAMAGING MY NEW PAINT JOB!
YOU KNEW THIS WAS A WAR ZONE?!
LOOK,
NOBODY WOULD PAY THAT MUCH FOR A DELIVERY IF THIS WAS A PEACEFUL PLACE!
I SHOULD LISTEN TO ORBI AND STOP DOING THESE DELIVERIES YOU COME UP WITH!


YOU COMPLAIN WAY TOO MUCH FOR SOMEONE FROM A PERFECT UNIVERSE.
I DON'T KNOW WHY EVERYONE KEEPS REPEATING THIS NONSENSE. I'M NOT PERFECT; NEITHER IS THE UNIVERSE I CAME FROM!
YOUR FILE SAYS OTHERWISE!
PERFECT
SINCE WHEN DO YOU TRUST WHAT THE COMPANY SAYS?
PERFECT
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS "PERFECT." IT'S JUST THAT THE UNIVERSES YOU CALL "NOT PERFECT" ARE WAY TOO AWFUL!
THE BAR IS SET TOO LOW.
YEAH, YEAH...
YOU ARE PERFECT... AT COMPLAINING.

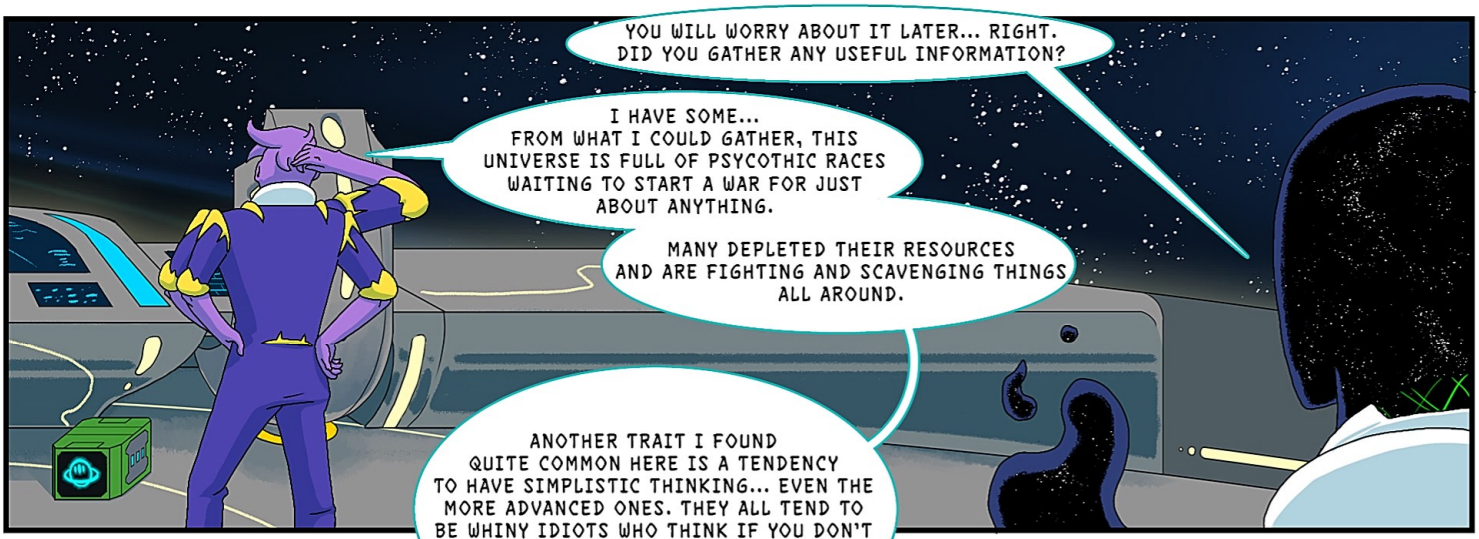

LOOK, WE HAVE TO PAY.
IF WE TAKE LONGER THAN ALLOWED, YOU KNOW THESE WILL EXPLODE.
WE'LL BE AS DEAD AS THE ONES ON THAT PLANET!
I DON'T KNOW. I'M PERFECT. MAYBE I CAN WITHSTAND THE EXPLOSION.
CAN YOU?
STOP IT! YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T. IF YOU COULD, YOU'D HAVE ESCAPED THIS JOB A LONG TIME AGO.
WE CAN SELL THAT, SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAY ANYTHING OUT OF POCKET!
HEAR ME OUT!

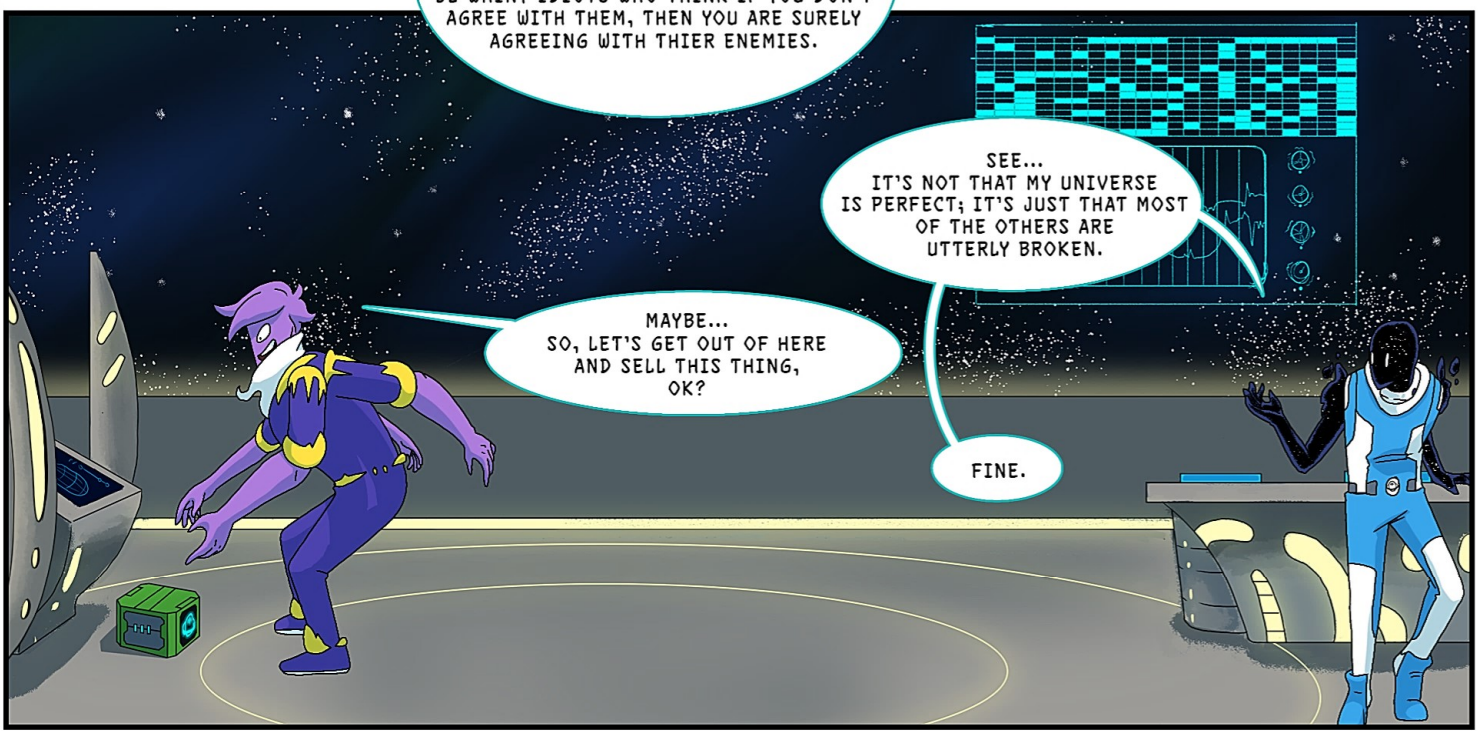
IT'S NOT OURS.
IT BELONGS TO NO ONE NOW!
IT DOESN'T MAKE IT OURS.
DONE!
DELIVERED
ADDRESSE NOT PRESENT
LEFT AT DOCK
ARE YOU INSANE?!
IF THIS GETS REPORTED, THEY'LL MAKE ME PAY!

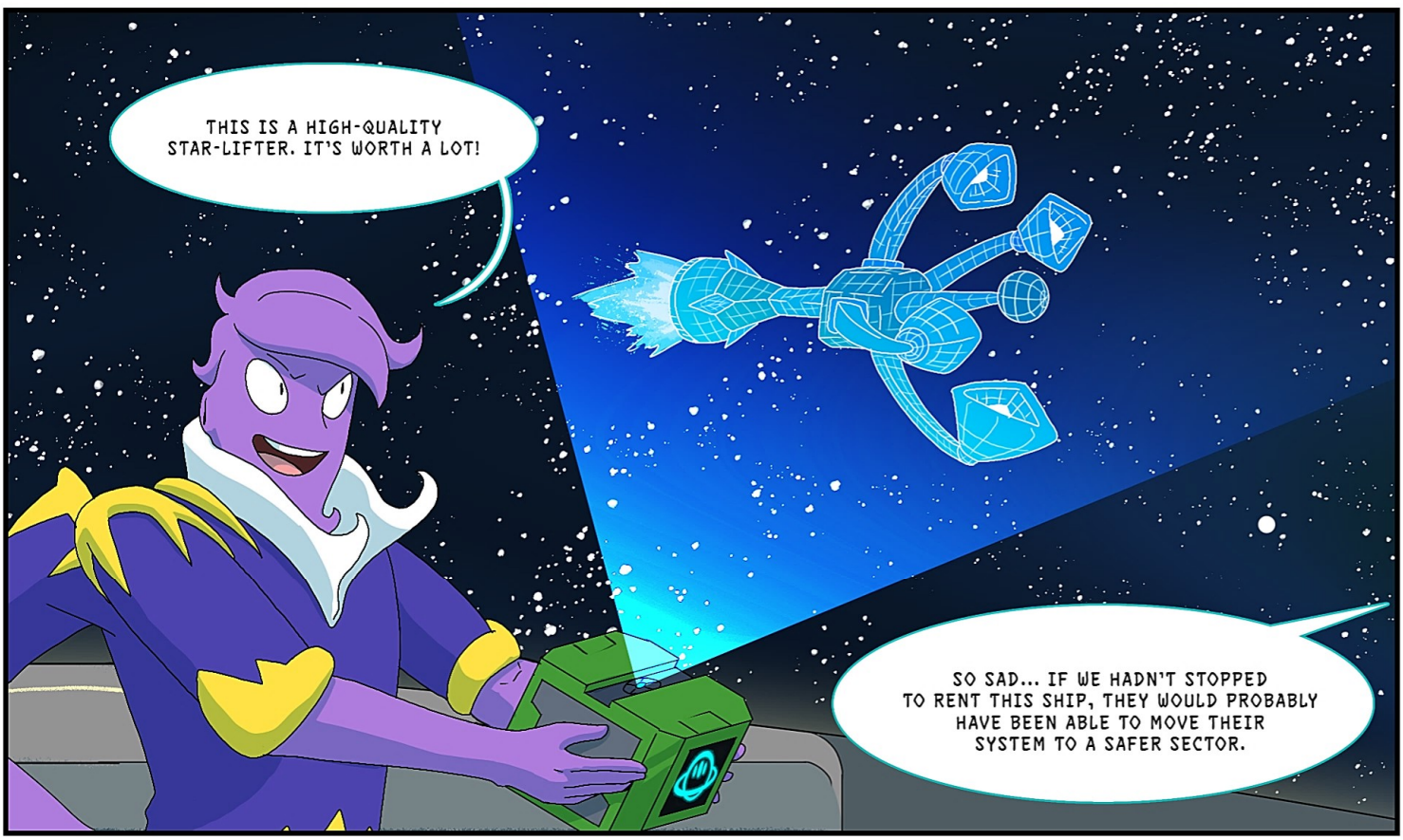
NO ONE WILL REPORT IT!
LOOK!
IT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU; THEY ARE DEAD, ALL OF THEM!
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE? WHAT IF SOMEONE ESCAPED?
YOU AND YOUR "WHAT-IFS," AGAIN...
THIS PLANET IS...
WAS...
VERY PRIMITIVE.
THEY ONLY MANAGED THE CREDITS TO PAY FOR THAT PACKAGE BECAUSE THEY SOLD ONE OF THEIR MOONS!
AND THE ONES WHO BOUGHT IT WERE VERY NICE; THEY COULD VERY WELL HAVE TAKEN IT...

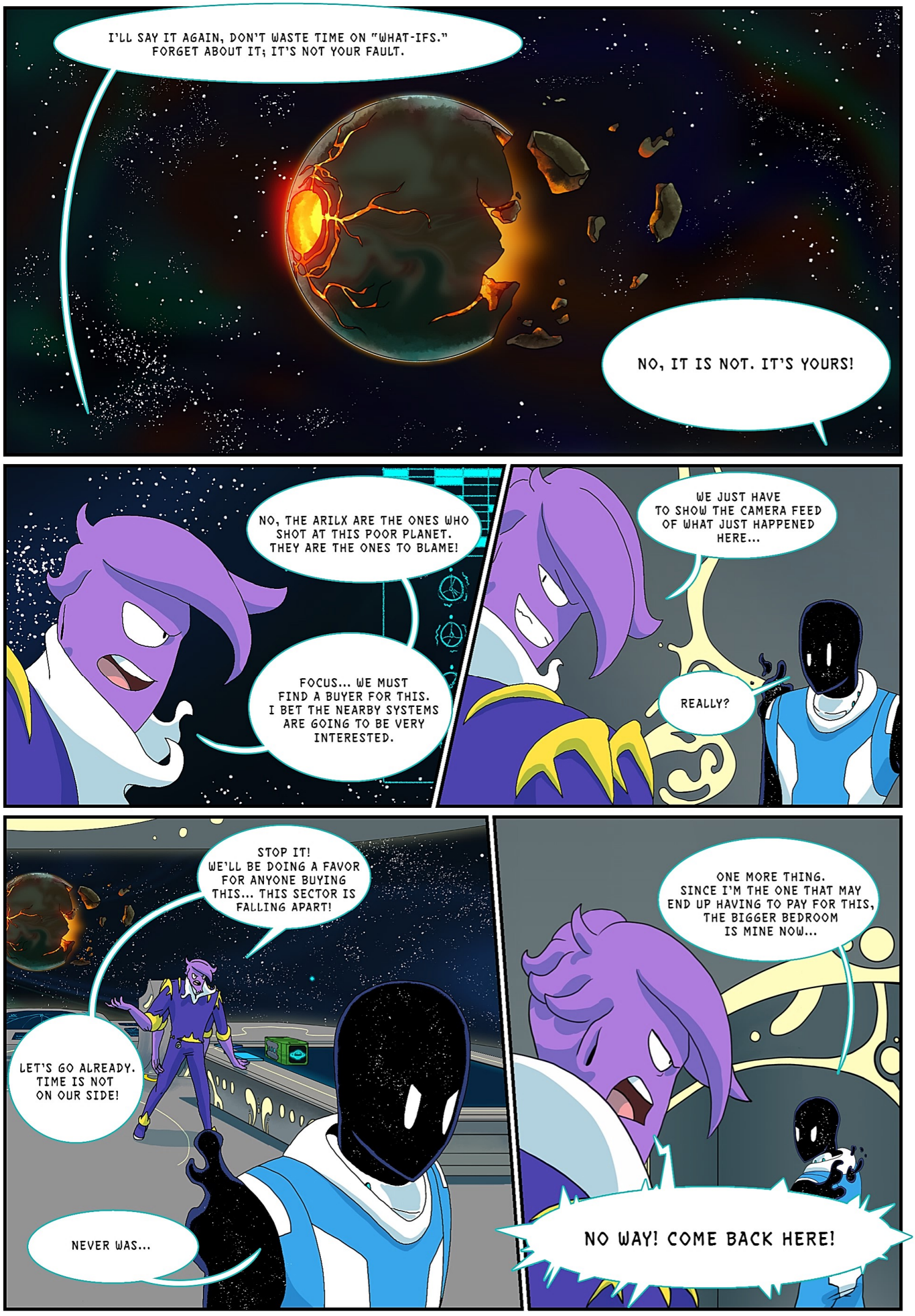
THE BEST THE INHABITANTS OF THIS PLANET COULD DO WAS PUT SOME JUNK IN ORBIT AND SEND PROBES TO EXPLORE NEARBY PLANETS.
BELIEVE ME, THEY WERE ALL INSIDE THE PLANET WHEN IT EXPLODED. MAYBE THERE ARE A FEW INSIDE SMALL SPACE CRAFTS ORBITING THE PLANET.
AND THAT'S A BIG MAYBE!
ANYWAY, THOSE HYPOTHETICAL SURVIVORS WILL NOT LAST LONG.
SOON ARILX'S SHIPS ARE GOING TO BE HERE AND DISASSEMBLE THIS PLANET'S STAR FOR RAW MATERIAL AND KILL ANYTHING THEY FIND THAT REMOTELY RESEMBLES LIFE.
AND THAT'S ANOTHER REASON FOR US TO GET AWAY FROM HERE!
...
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT MUCH ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?

ERR...
I HAD A JOB TO DO HERE...
BUT NOW...
BY THE WAY, BEFORE I FORGET!
INFORMANT NOT FOUND
DECEASED
PLANET EXPLODED
AND THERE I WAS, THINKING YOU DECIDED TO KEEP ME COMPANY ON ONE OF THOSE SUICIDE MISSIONS YOU PUT ME IN!
WELL, I'M KEEPING YOU COMPANY. AM I NOT?
WHAT IS YOUR ASSIGNMENT HERE?
ZX SENT ME TO INVESTIGATE WHICH SIDE OF THIS WAR OMNIA SHOULD BE ON. I THOUGHT A NEUTRAL PLANET WOULD BE IDEAL TO WEIGH THINGS OUT.
ZX SENT YOU TO COME WITH ME?
YEAH, APPARENTLY THIS IS IMPORTANT FOR THE DELIVERY DEPARTMENT.
I'LL WORRY ABOUT IT LATER...


YOU WILL WORRY ABOUT IT LATER... RIGHT. DID YOU GATHER ANY USEFUL INFORMATION?
I HAVE SOME... FROM WHAT I COULD GATHER, THIS UNIVERSE IS FULL OF PSYCOTHIC RACES WAITING TO START A WAR FOR JUST ABOUT ANYTHING.
MANY DEPLETED THEIR RESOURCES AND ARE FIGHTING AND SCAVENGING THINGS ALL AROUND.
ANOTHER TRAIT I FOUND QUITE COMMON HERE IS A TENDENCY TO HAVE SIMPLISTIC THINKING... EVEN THE MORE ADVANCED ONES. THEY ALL TEND TO BE WHINY IDIOTS WHO THINK IF YOU DON'T AGREE WITH THEM, THEN YOU ARE SURELY AGREEING WITH THIER ENEMIES.

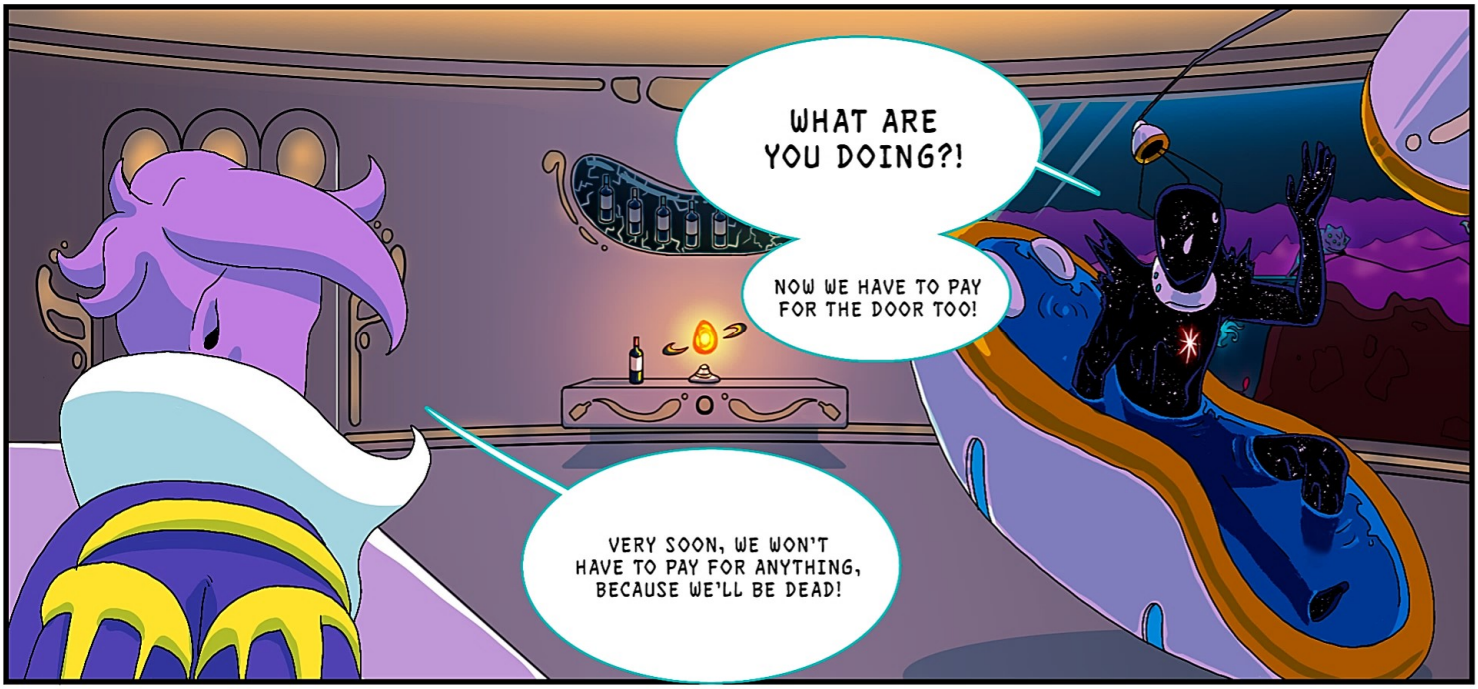

SEE... IT'S NOT THAT MY UNIVERSE IS PERFECT; IT'S JUST THAT MOST OF THE OTHERS ARE UTTERLY BROKEN.
MAYBE... SO, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE AND SELL THIS THING, OK?
FINE.

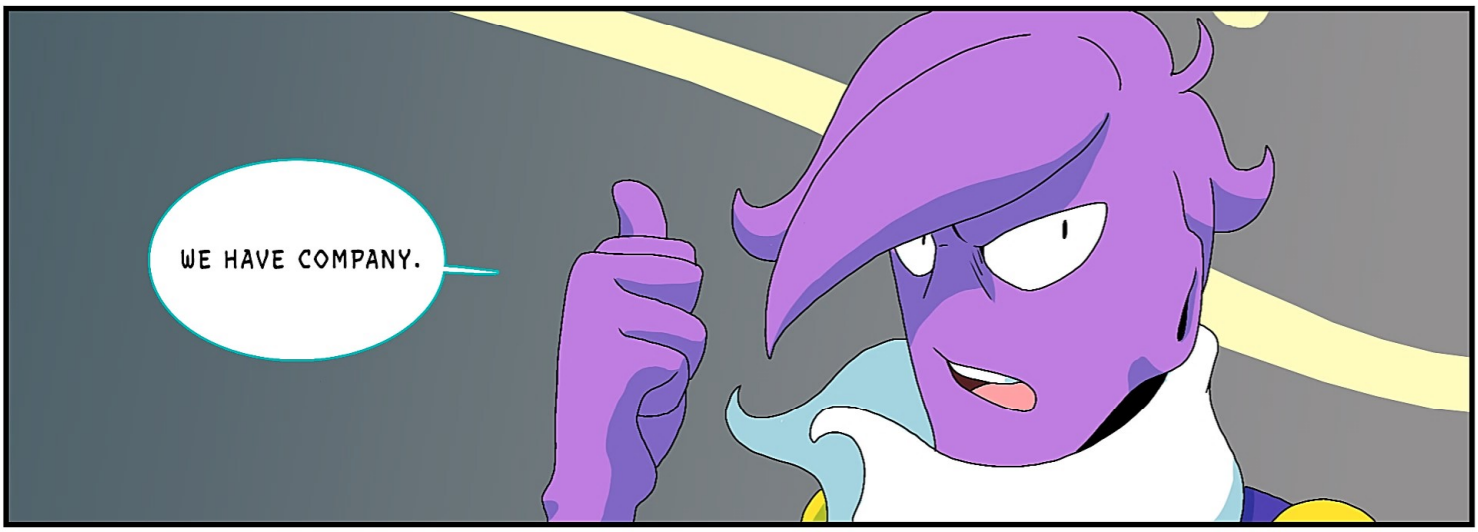

THIS IS A HIGH-QUALITY STAR-LIFTER. IT'S WORTH A LOT!
SO SAD... IF WE HADN'T STOPPED TO RENT THIS SHIP, THEY WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MOVE THEIR SYSTEM TO A SAFER SECTOR.

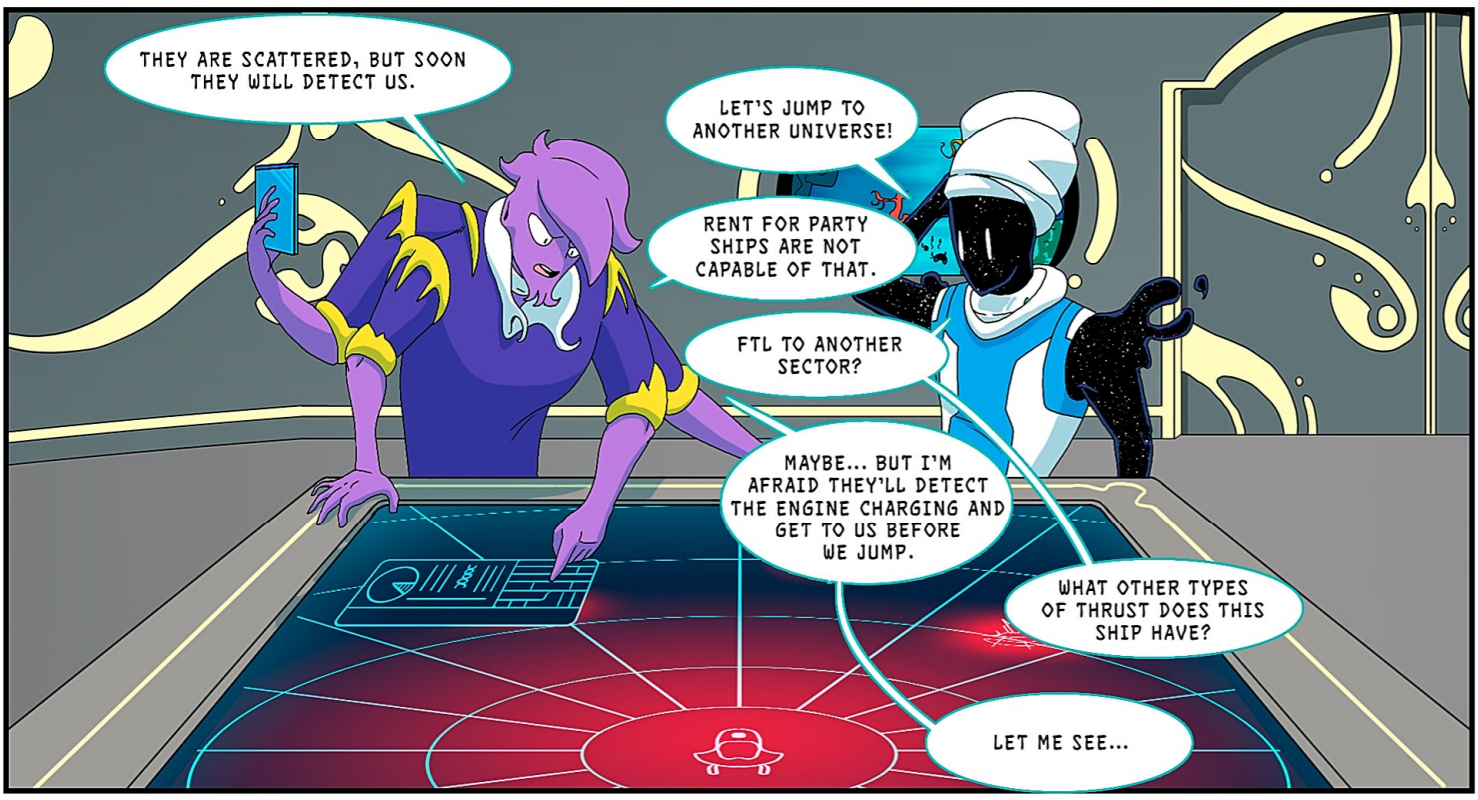

I'LL SAY IT AGAIN, DON'T WASTE TIME ON "WHAT-IFS." FORGET ABOUT IT; IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
NO, IT IS NOT. IT'S YOURS!
NO, THE ARILX ARE THE ONES WHO SHOT AT THIS POOR PLANET. THEY ARE THE ONES TO BLAME!
FOCUS... WE MUST FIND A BUYER FOR THIS. I BET THE NEARBY SYSTEMS ARE GOING TO BE VERY INTERESTED.
WE JUST HAVE TO SHOW THE CAMERA FEED OF WHAT JUST HAPPENED HERE...
REALLY?
STOP IT! WE'LL BE DOING A FAVOR FOR ANYONE BUYING THIS... THIS SECTOR IS FALLING APART!
LET'S GO ALREADY. TIME IS NOT ON OUR SIDE!
NEVER WAS...
ONE MORE THING. SINCE I'M THE ONE THAT MAY END UP HAVING TO PAY FOR THIS, THE BIGGER BEDROOM IS MINE NOW...
NO WAY! COME BACK HERE!

WARNING
DAMN IT!

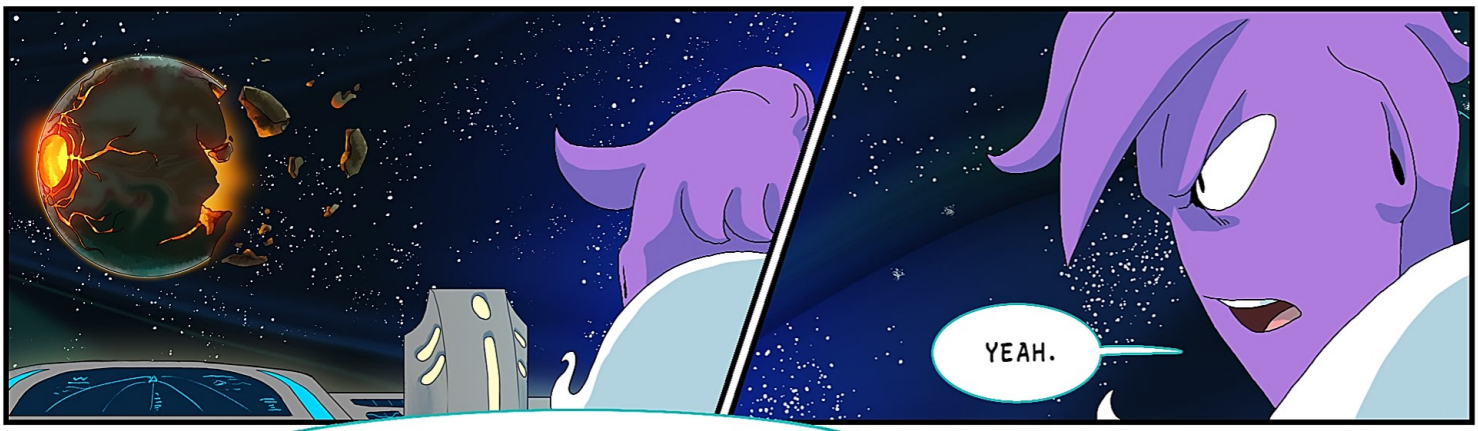
BEEP
WE NEED TO TALK.
IT'S AN EMERGENCY!
MY CLOTHES?
DUDE, WHEN I FIRST MET YOU,
YOU WERE FREAKING NAKED!
DID I SAY ANTHING?
NO, I DIDN'T,
BECAUSE I DON'T CARE.
LEAVE MY CLOTHES BE!
OH, NOW IT'S AN EMERGENCY?
LET ME GUESS...
YOU NEED THIS ROOM BECAUSE
IT MATCHES YOUR RIDICULOUS CLOTHES?
FFFFFFFFFFF
FUCK THIS.
COME!
KA-BOOM

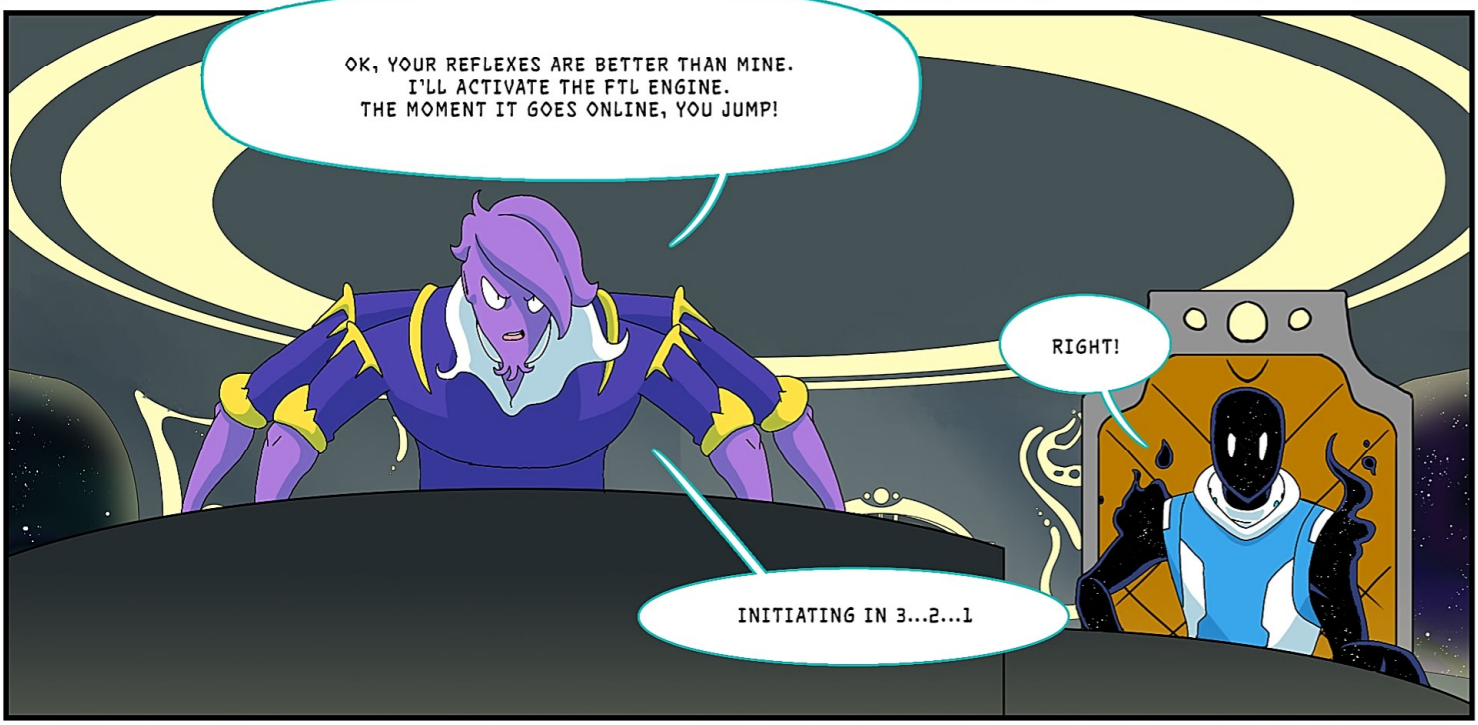

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
NOW WE HAVE TO PAY FOR THE DOOR TOO!
VERY SOON, WE WON'T HAVE TO PAY FOR ANYTHING, BECAUSE WE'LL BE DEAD!


WE HAVE COMPANY.


THEY ARE SCATTERED, BUT SOON THEY WILL DETECT US.
LET'S JUMP TO ANOTHER UNIVERSE!
RENT FOR PARTY SHIPS ARE NOT CAPABLE OF THAT.
FTL TO ANOTHER SECTOR?
MAYBE... BUT I'M AFRAID THEY'LL DETECT THE ENGINE CHARGING AND GET TO US BEFORE WE JUMP.
WHAT OTHER TYPES OF THRUST DOES THIS SHIP HAVE?
LET ME SEE...

NOTHING WORTH TRYING...
IT'S MADE FOR PARTIES ONLY...
I SHOULD'VE LOOKED AT THIS...
WE CAN POWER OFF THE SHIP AND HOPE FOR THE BEST.
SAME THING WITH USING THE FTL, WORSE EVEN... THEY COULD DETECT THE ENERGY DENSITY IN OUR POSITION CHANGING, BUT THIS TIME, WE WOULD BE SITTING ON A DEAD SHIP.
WELL, THEN WE HAVE TO JUMP AND SEE.


YEAH.


OK, YOUR REFLEXES ARE BETTER THAN MINE.
I'LL ACTIVATE THE FTL ENGINE.
THE MOMENT IT GOES ONLINE, YOU JUMP!
RIGHT!
INITIATING IN 3...2...1

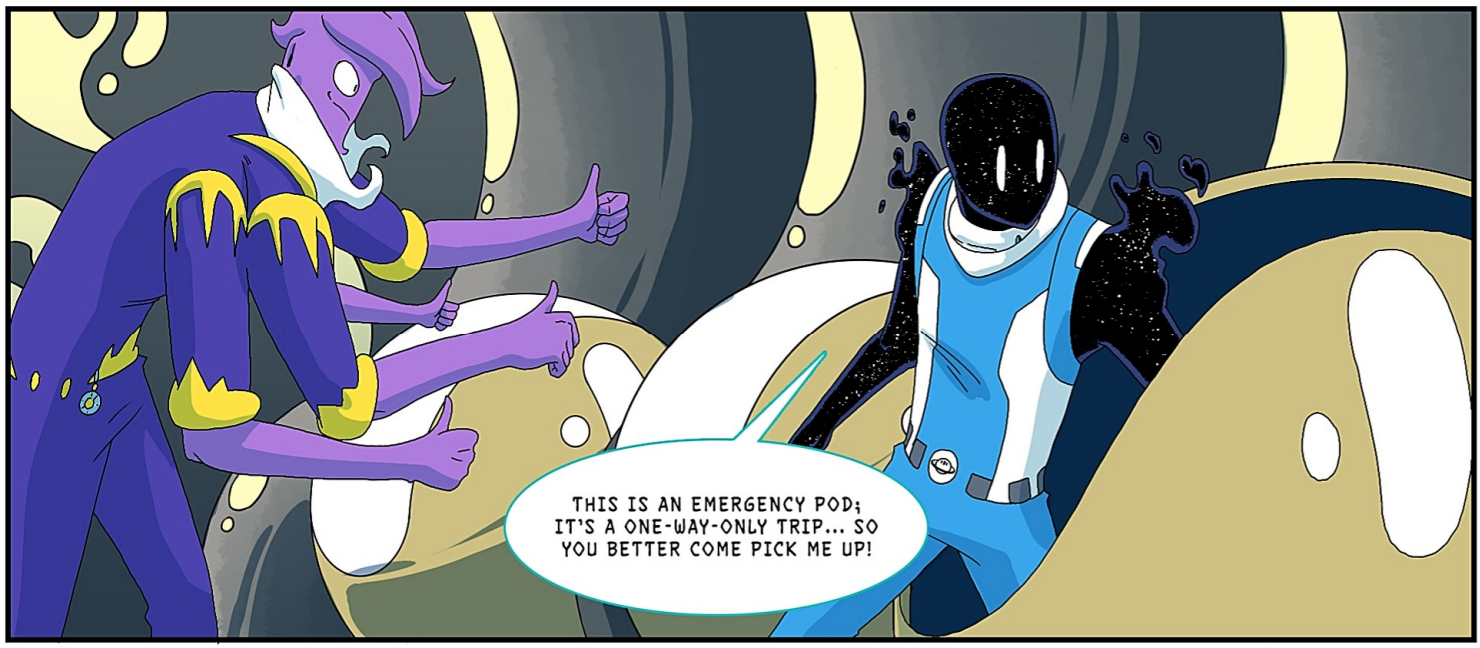
BEEP
WARNING
BRACE FOR IMPACT!!!
THEY ALREADY TARGETED US!
ROUTE ALL POWER GOING TO USELESS SYSTEMS FOR THE FTL MODULE!
EVEN THE POOL HEATER?!
...
JUST KIDDING, ALREADY DOING IT!

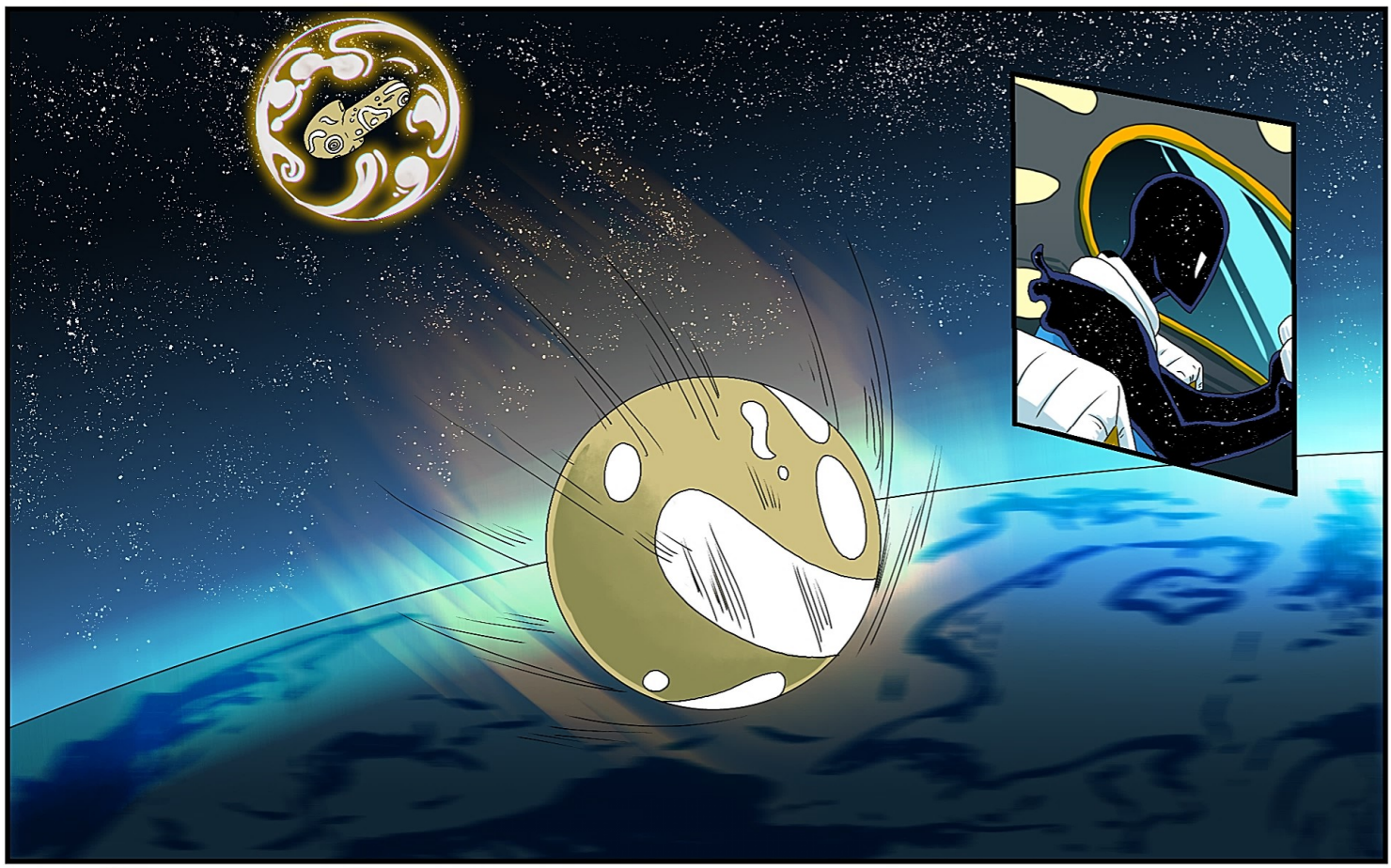
YES!
YOU'RE A TRUE ETEK!
AN ETEK?
IT'S A CRAZY FAST ANIMAL FROM MY PLANET!
OK... NOW I'M GOING BACK TO MY MASSAGE...
THEY TRACKED US!

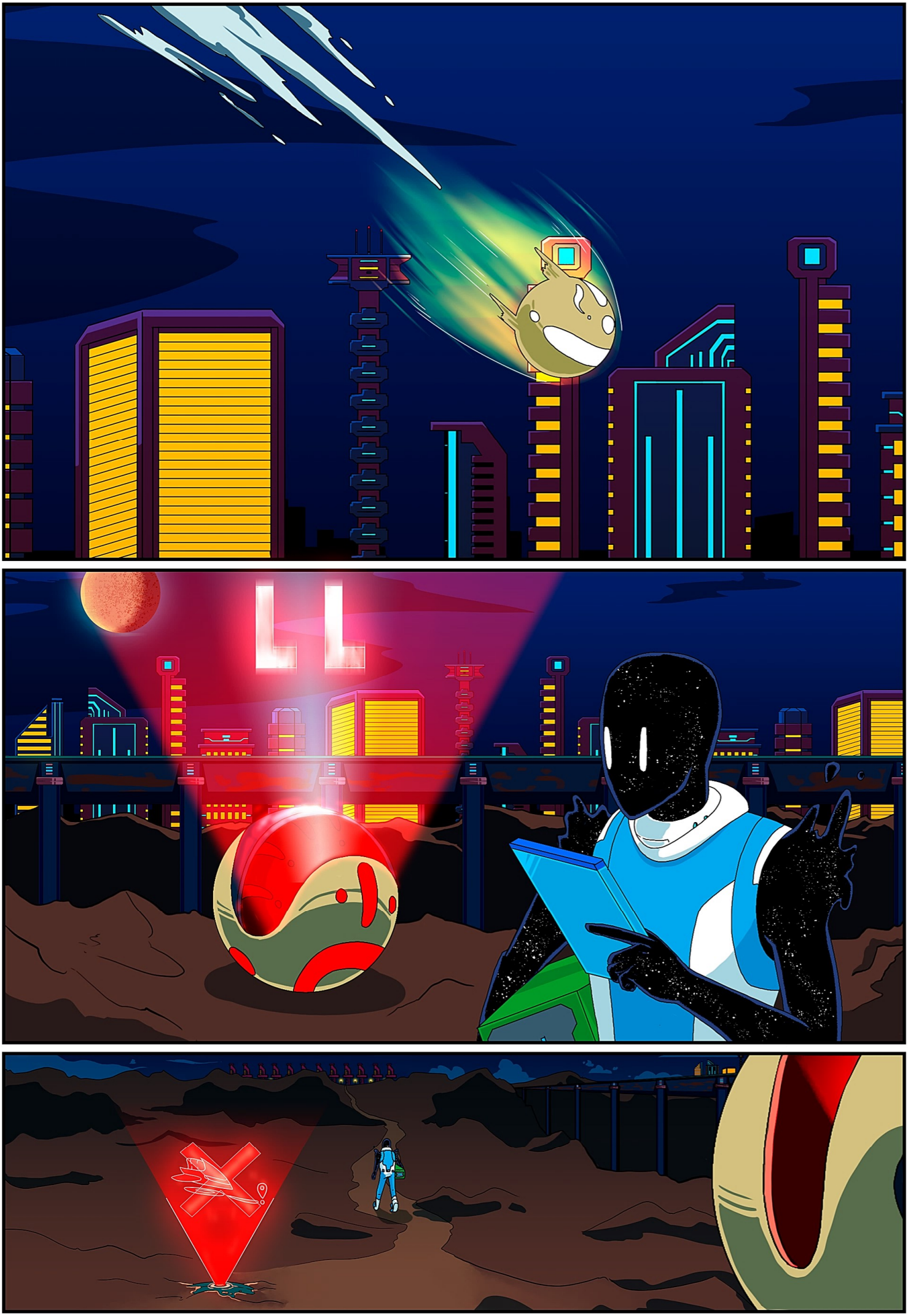
THIS FAST?
THEY MUST HAVE SOME WEIRD DETECTORS ON THOSE BATTLESHIPS!
CLACK
WHAT HAP-
I EXECUTED ANOTHER JUMP.

NOW WHAT?
WE KEEP DOING THIS
UNTIL WE DIE?
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
FOR NOW?
YES.

I FOUND ONE BUYER!
YOU WHAT? YOU WERE DOING THIS WHILE I KEPT SAVING OUR LIVES?!
YES, WOULD YOU PREFER IF I WAS BY YOUR SIDE GIVING YOU MORAL SUPPORT? LOOK, WE HAVE TWO PROBLEMS, AND I DON'T HAVE THE FAINTEST IDEA WHAT TO DO ABOUT OUR STALKERS.
...
THE POTENTIAL BUYER IS CALLED "UNZET", AND HE HAS THE AMOUNT WE NEED, PLUS A LITTLE SOMETHING. I CHECKED HIS CREDITS.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO SAY? "HEY, UNZET. LOOK FOR A PARTY SHIP BEING CHASED BY A BATTLESHIP — THAT'S US. OH, I FORGOT, WE ARE CONSTANTLY EXECUTING FTL JUMPS. SO, BE QUICK!"
THAT WOULD BE VERY COOL! UNFORTUNATELY, THE BUYER WAS VERY SPECIFIC; HE NEEDS US TO DELIVER IT ON HIS PLANET.
HOW ARE WE GOING TO DO IT?
HIS PLANET IS WITHIN THIS SECTOR, NOT FAR FROM HERE. WE JUMP JUST ABOVE IT, AND YOU TAKE AN ESCAPE POD AND GO THERE.
ME?!
WOULD YOU RATHER STAY AND BE CHASED BY A BUNCH OF ANGRY BATTLESHIPS?
OK, AND THEN WHAT?
I WILL CIRCLE THE SYSTEM DOING RANDOM JUMPS FOR ENOUGH TIME FOR YOU TO MAKE THE DELIVERY. DON'T WORRY, I'LL TAKE SHORT JUMPS TO MINIMIZE THE TIME OFFSET CAUSED BY THEM.
WILL YOU BE SAFE?
YEAH
I CREATED A PROGRAM TO READ THE RADAR AND EXECUTE THE JUMP THING IF NEEDED.
FOR HOW LONG DO YOU HAVE IT?

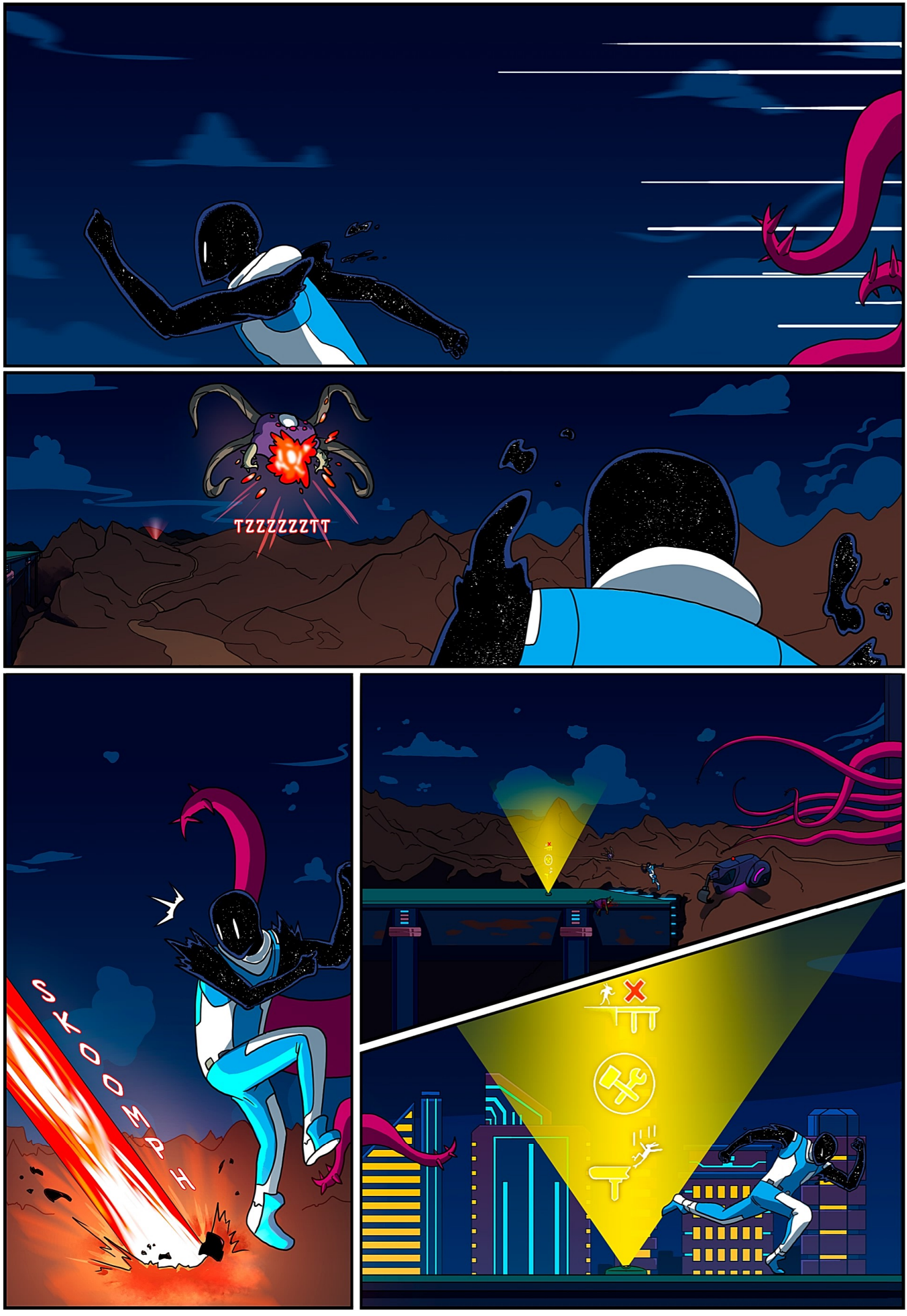

THIS IS AN EMERGENCY POD; IT'S A ONE-WAY-ONLY TRIP... SO YOU BETTER COME PICK ME UP!

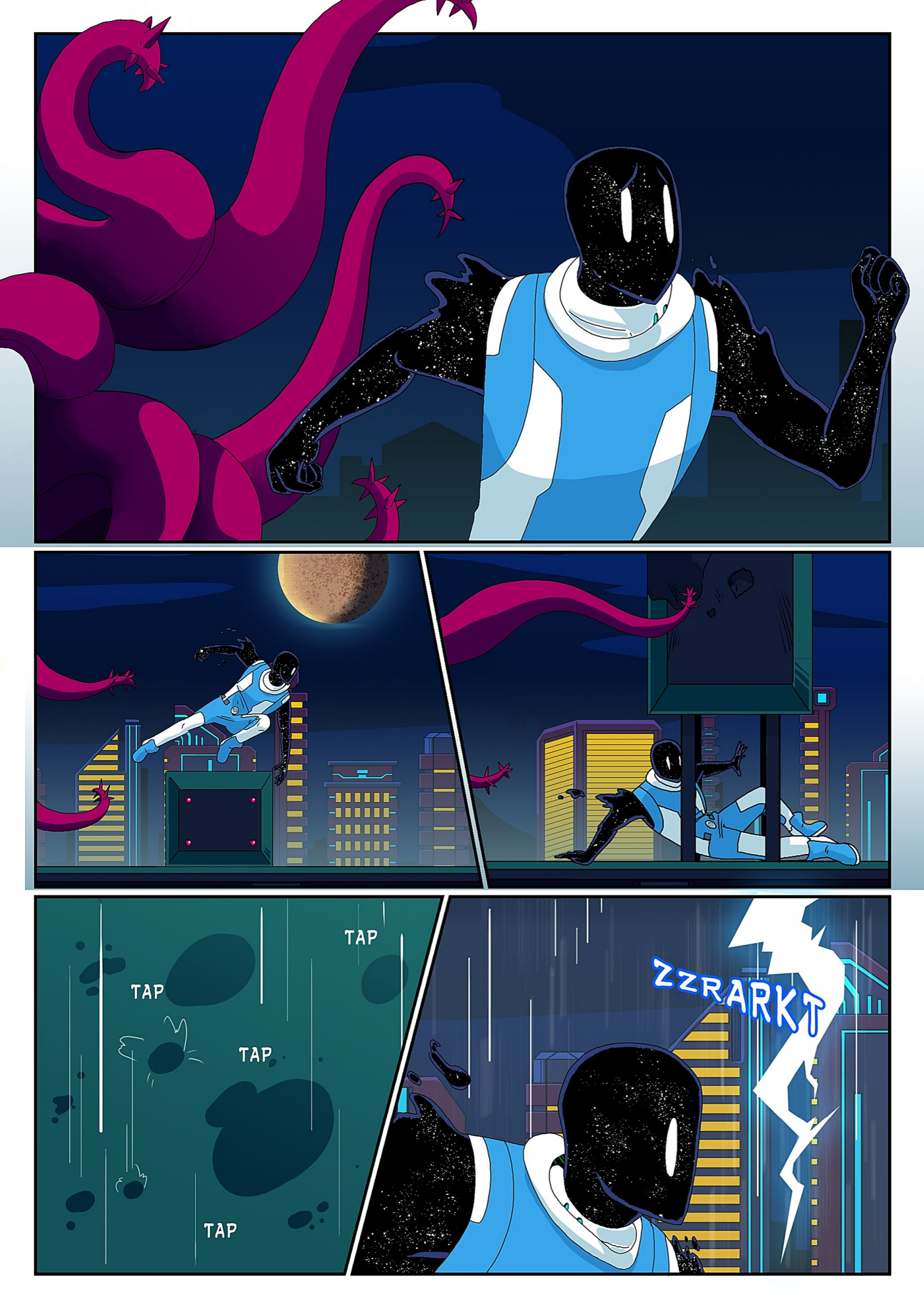




DELIVERY
FOR UNZET!

AAAAAAAAAHH
SPLASH
HM...
UNZET?


TZZZZZZTT
SKOOSH


TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
ZZRARKT

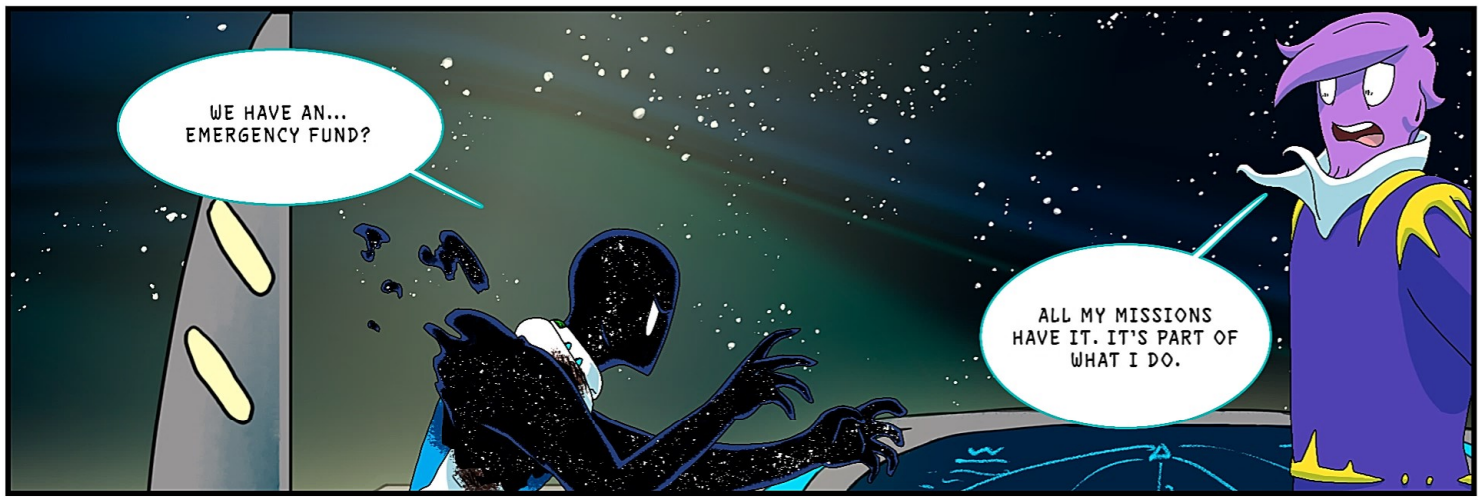
SKOOMPH
GHAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAKS!!!
ZZRARKT
TZZZZZZZZZTT
SKOOOOOOMPH

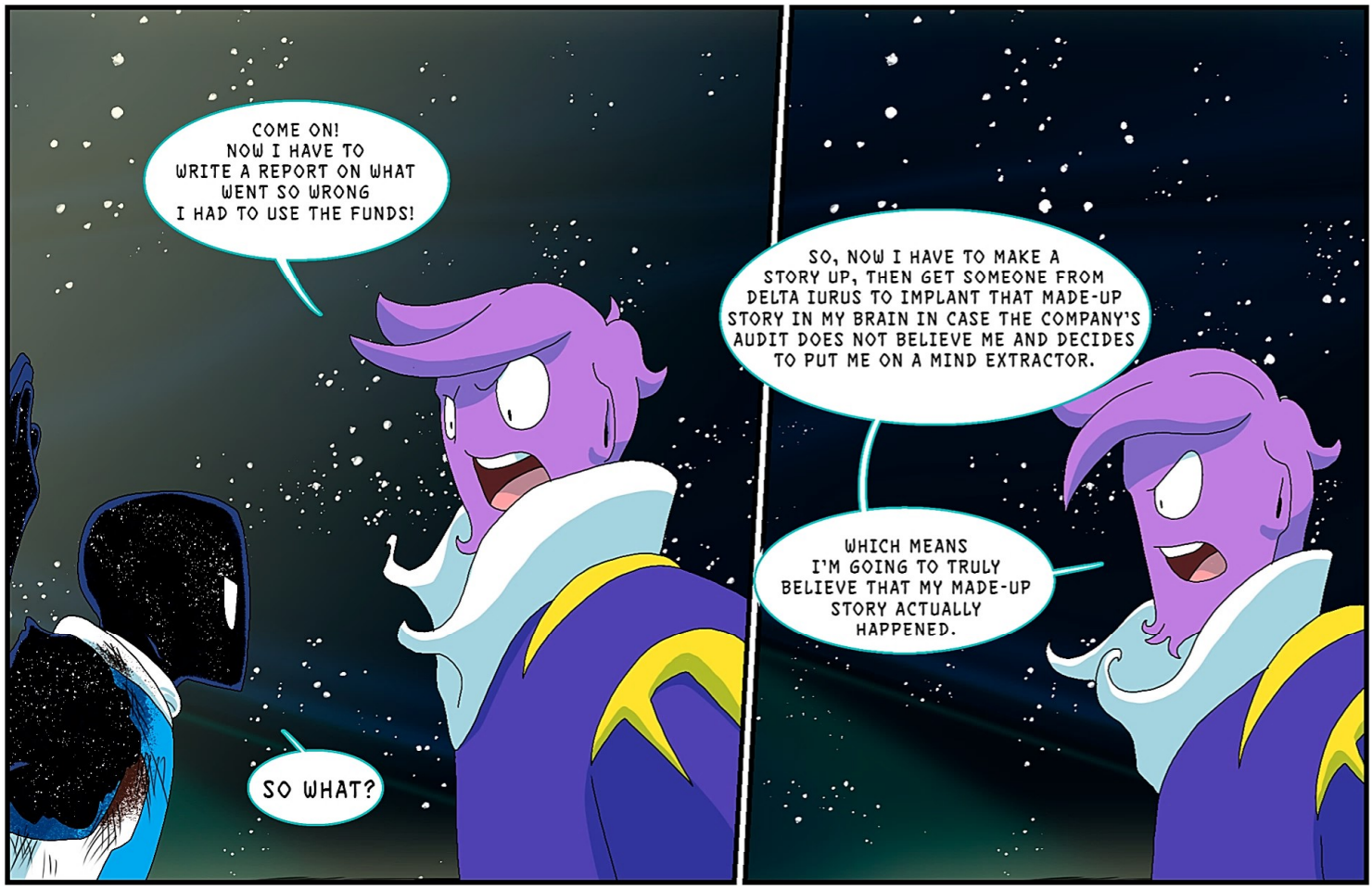
FINALLY.
I'M LATE, SORRY.

DID YOU GET THE CREDITS?
NO, AND WE NEED TO LOOK FOR THE PACKAGE. I LEFT IT AT UNZET'S PLACE, BUT IT'S NOT THERE ANYMORE; I CHECKED.
NAH, LEAVE IT.
WHAT?
WHILE I WAS DANCING AROUND THE SYSTEM WITH OUR STALKERS, I RECEIVED A LOT OF REQUESTS ASKING IF I STILL HAVE THE PRODUCT. SOME OFFERED TO DOUBLE THE PRICE, GIVEN THAT I WOULD DELIVER IT ON SITE.
THAT MADE ME SUSPICIOUS... I CHECKED THE NEWS AND THERE IT WAS.
THE ONES CHASING US DECIDED THAT BRINGING BEINGS FROM THE SUBLAYER WAS A GOOD WAR STRATEGY. NEEDLESS TO SAY, IT WASN'T... ALL SORTS OF CREATURES STARTED APPEARING AT RANDOM ON MANY SYSTEMS, KILLING ANYTHING, REGARDLESS OF WHICH SIDE OF THE WAR THEY ARE ON.
I KNOW ABOUT THE CREATURES.
YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME THEN!
...
UNZET AND ALL THE OTHERS WERE JUST TRYING TO LURE US INTO THE PLANET TO STEAL OUR SHIP.

BY THE WAY, DID YOU SEE ANY SUCH CREATURE?
OF COURSE I DID. LOOK AT ME! DIDN'T YOU EVEN WONDER WHY I'M LIKE THIS?
NO... I JUST ASSUMED YOU WERE TRYING ON A NEW LOOK WHILE I WAS AWAY...
I DON'T KNOW... I REALLY DON'T CARE ABOUT HOW YOU DRESS; I ALREADY TOLD YOU THAT.
WE DIDN'T JUMP FOR A WHILE. WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BATTLESHIPS?
AH! I GOT RID OF THEM. DON'T WORRY!
DID THEY LOSE THE TRACKING ON THIS SHIP?
IN A WAY... I PROGRAMMED THE SYSTEMS TO SEND AN OFFENSE JUST BEFORE EVERY JUMP. NOT A REGULAR OFFENSE; THOSE EARTHLING OFFENSES. YOU KNOW...
THAT MADE WHATEVER WAS PILOTING VERY, VERY MAD. IT STARTED TO FIRE AT ME WITHOUT EVEN AIMING.
THEN, I LOCATED THE NEAREST PLACE WHERE THEIR ENEMIES HAD A DEPLOYMENT AND JUMPED THERE, AND THEY BLINDLY FOLLOWED ME.
THEY WERE OBLITERATED THE MOMENT THEY SHOWED UP. BEAUTIFUL VIEW, I TELL YOU.
LUCKY ME, NOBODY CARED ABOUT THIS SHIP. SO, I JUMPED A FEW MORE TIMES JUST TO BE SURE. THEN, I CAME BACK TO PICK YOU UP.

IF WE DON'T COME BACK FOR THE PACKAGE, HOW ARE WE GOING TO PAY FOR THE SHIP?
I'M TIRED OF THIS PLACE. I'LL USE THE EMERGENCY FUNDS.


WE HAVE AN... EMERGENCY FUND?
ALL MY MISSIONS HAVE IT. IT'S PART OF WHAT I DO.


COME ON! NOW I HAVE TO WRITE A REPORT ON WHAT WENT SO WRONG I HAD TO USE THE FUNDS!
SO WHAT?
SO, NOW I HAVE TO MAKE A STORY UP, THEN GET SOMEONE FROM DELTA IURUS TO IMPLANT THAT MADE-UP STORY IN MY BRAIN IN CASE THE COMPANY'S AUDIT DOES NOT BELIEVE ME AND DECIDES TO PUT ME ON A MIND EXTRACTOR.
WHICH MEANS I'M GOING TO TRULY BELIEVE THAT MY MADE-UP STORY ACTUALLY HAPPENED.

BESIDES, I TRULY HATE DOING REPORTS!

CONFO
SPEED
WEAPON
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